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Central Intelligence AgencyDCI Chas.  
NIC 06634-84

Washington, D.C. 20505

26 November 1984

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

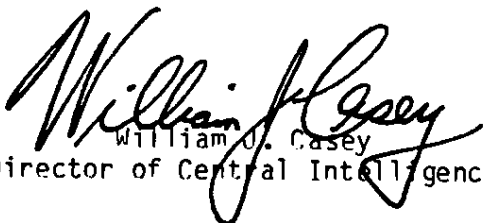
The National Foreign Intelligence Board has authorized distribution of [redacted] The Potential for the Transfer of US Space Technology to the Soviet Union. This [redacted] alerts recipients to the fact that US space technology not controlled for National security, foreign policy, or competitive reasons, has been and, under current circumstances, will continue to be acquired and used by the Soviets to the benefit of their military and non-military space programs. The Estimate also concludes that there are significantly increased risks of losing controlled technology whenever it is shared with our allies. These and other key findings of the Estimate indicate, in my view and that of the NFIB, the urgent need to review and, in all likelihood, revise our policies in this area.

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The NFIB is especially concerned that cooperative programs with our allies and private industry, often undertaken to help defray the direct costs of our space program, have posed, and will continue to pose, a severe technology transfer problem which has the effect of saving the Soviets considerable time and money in their own space program. This, in turn, impacts on our own defense needs and costs.

Tighter control on space technology is likely to result in a significant loss of participation in our space program by our allies and private industry. On the other hand, possible additional revenue for our space program from bilateral cooperation with our allies could result in greater risks and greater costs for defense against weapons based on technology transferred to the USSR.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

Attachment

[redacted] The Potential for the Transfer  
of US Space Technology to the Soviet Union

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cc: Vice President  
Secretary of State  
Secretary of Defense  
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

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